United Nations A/C.2/61/5

General Assembly

Distr.: General
16 October 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Second Committee
Agenda item 118
Programme planning

Letter dated 12 October 2006 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Second Committee

I wish to inform you of a letter dated 11 October 2006 from the President of the Economic and Social Council, in which he informed me that the Council, at its 44th meeting, on 11 October 2006, took note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.[1] He also drew my attention to the recommendations contained in paragraphs 120 and 287 of that report concerning the work of the General Assembly.

In paragraph 120 of the report, the Committee for Programme and Coordination recommended that the General Assembly allocate subprogramme 1 of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 to the Second Committee for its review and action under the agenda item entitled "Programme planning".

You will recall that the General Assembly, at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, allocated agenda item 118, entitled "Programme planning", to all the Main Committees and to the plenary.

Accordingly, I am transmitting the recommendation by the Committee for Programme and Coordination to you for appropriate action by the Second Committee under agenda item 118.

(*Signed*) Haya Rashed **Al Khalifa**

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/61/16).

06-57257 (E) 171006

United Nations A/C.2/61/6

General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 October 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Second Committee
Agenda item 55 (b)
Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Letter dated 6 October 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General

I write to you in conjunction with a letter addressed to you on 14 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations (A/61/346). That letter contained an annex, in which Mostafa Pourmohamadi, Minister for the Interior of the Islamic Republic of Iran, protests that the host country did not issue an entry visa to enable the Minister to participate in the High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development on 14 and 15 September. The Minister asserts that this failure runs counter to the host country's international obligations to the Islamic Republic of Iran and to the Organization.

An Iranian delegation of four persons, including Minister Pourmohamadi, sought United States visas to travel to New York to attend the meetings in question. The United States Mission has been informed by the United States Embassy in Bern, Switzerland, that an Iranian Government courier delivered a large number of visa applications and passports at the Embassy on 11 September 2006 and stated that four of those applicants, including the Minister, wished to travel on 12 September to arrive in New York for a meeting on 14 September. When the Iranian courier was told that the visas for three of the applicants were ready to be issued, but that of the Minister was not yet ready, he requested the return of all four passports and informed the Embassy that the visa applications should be considered withdrawn.

The host country takes its obligations to the United Nations diplomatic community very seriously. For that reason, the United States Mission met with the United Nations Legal Counsel with regard to this issue on 20 September and the issue was further discussed at the 230th meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country on 29 September. I would also pledge my mission's readiness and desire to work closely with the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran on all visa and related issues in the future.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 55 (b) of the agenda.

(*Signed*) John R. **Bolton**

06-58130 (E) 231006